

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FOR EUR ASST. SECRETARY VEST ONLY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG
SUBJECT: STAFFING MY OUTER OFFICE

1. I NEED YOUR HELP TO INDEFINITELY CONTINUE ONE PIT POSITION IN MY OFFICE WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED ONLY FOR FIRST YEAR OF MY ASSIGNMENT TO PARIS.

2. POSITION IS NOW INCUMBERED BY EDITH DUNN FRERE WHO IS RESIGNING JUNE 30. I HAVE IDENTIFIED TOP-FLIGHT AMERICAN SUCCESSOR, BILINGUAL IN FRENCH, WHO CAN PROVIDE THE COMBINATION OF SOCIAL SAVVY, TOTAL FRENCH FLUENCY, AND TOP QUALITY SECRETARIAL SUPPORT WHICH IS ESSENTIAL TO ME IN THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES EXTANT IN PARIS. I NEED NOT DWELL ON THE UNIQUE CLOUT POSSESSED BY THE FRENCH ESTABLISHMENT -- SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND INTELLECTUAL -- BUT THERE IS NOTHING COMPARABLE AT HOME OR IN THE REST OF EUROPE.

3. ALTHOUGH I ORIGINALLY OBTAINED THIS PIT POSITION FOR SIX MONTHS AND HAVE HAD TWO EXTENSIONS FROM EUR/EX OF THREE MONTHS EACH, WE ARE NOW AT A TOTAL IMPASSE. FOREIGN SERVICE INSPECTORS HAVE APPARENTLY MUDDIED WATER BY POINTING OUT THERE ARE TWO PIT
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EMPLOYEES CURRENTLY WORKING IN MY OFFICE. THIS IS A TEMPORARY ARRANGEMENT ONLY AND ONE WILL BE RETURNED TO OTHER DUTIES AT END OF SUMMER. I MUST POINT OUT THAT, UNLIKE PREVIOUS POLITICAL APPOINTEE CHIEFS OF MISSION HERE, I OPERATE REGULARLY WITH ONE RPT ONE SPECIAL ASSISTANT INSTEAD OF TWO AND WITH THREE AMERICAN SECRETARIES (ONE OF WHOM IS THE PIT SECRETARY HANDLING

SOCIAL AND FRENCH LANGUAGE AFFAIRS) INSTEAD OF FOUR.
I CAN NOT RPT NOT OPERATE WITH LESS.

4. I HAVE EXPLORED POSSIBILITY OF SUBSTITUTING PIT
FSL EMPLOYEE FOR THE PIT AMERICAN SOCIAL AND FRENCH
LANGUAGE SECRETARY, BUT THIS IS UNSATISFACTORY
SOLUTION. CLASSIFIED NATURE OF MUCH FRONT OFFICE
PAPER WOULD NECESSITATE LOCAL SECRETARY'S OPERATING
FROM OFFICE ACROSS THE HALL, AND I CANNOT EFFECTIVELY
DIVORCE THE SOCIAL AND FRENCH LANGUAGE POSITION OF MY
WORK FROM OTHER CLASSIFIED RESPONSIBILITIES. TO
FURTHER COMPLICATE SITUATION PER HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO
FIND FRENCH SPEAKING SECRETARY FOR THIRD SECRETARIAL
JOB IN MY OFFICE AND ON JUNE 30TH WITH FRERE'S
DEPARTURE MY OFFICE WILL BE MONOLINGUAL.

5. I CAN MAKE FIRM COMMITMENT THAT SECOND PIT
POSITION (JENNINGS) NOW ON TEMPORARY LOAN TO FRONT
OFFICE WILL BE RELEASED SEPTEMBER 30TH TO OTHER
DUTIES.

6. I WOULD HOPE THAT EUR CAN GIVE ME WHAT I SO
BADLY NEED. I CANNOT
REFRAIN FROM NOTING THAT A POLITICAL APPOINTEE IN THIS
JOB WOULD AUTOMATICALLY BE GIVEN TWO PURELY PATRONAGE
POSITIONS BY THE SEVENTH FLOOR, AND I FIND IT HARD TO
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BELIEVE THAT THE CAREER SERVICE WISHES TO PENALIZE ONE
OF ITS OWN BY DENYING EVEN ONE PIT SLOT.
HARTMAN

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